



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SPRINGFIELD MAN INDICTED ON NARCOTICS, FIREARMS CHARGES**

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Springfield, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for possession with intent to distribute methamphetamine and illegal possession of firearms.

**Daniel Hand**, 24, of Springfield, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Hand** possessed with intent to distribute methamphetamine on Sept. 18, 2002, in Greene County, Mo.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Hand**, in furtherance of the alleged narcotics violation charged in Count One, illegally possessed a Mossberg 12-gauge shotgun and a Springfield .22 caliber rifle. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for a person to possess a firearm during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney James J. Kelleher. It was investigated by the Springfield, Mo., Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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